

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

- 1           1.     A temporary door latch comprising:  
  
2           a handle portion removably engaged with a tongue portion, and means for  
3           biasing said tongue portion away from said handle portion provided on  
4           said handle portion.  
  
1           2.     A temporary door latch according to Claim 1 wherein the means for  
2           biasing said tongue portion further comprises:  
  
3           a compressible arm provided on said handle portion so that said tongue  
4           portion moves toward said handle when the compressible arm is  
5           compressed.  
  
1           3.     A temporary door latch according to Claim 2 further comprising:  
  
2           at least two ears provided at the rear end of the compressible arm to  
3           removably secure the handle portion within a larger bore of a door latch  
4           opening.  
  
1           4.     A temporary door latch according to Claim 2 further comprising:

2 a ring attached to said compressible arm for ease in grasping the handle  
3 portion in order to compress the compressible arm rearward within the  
4 larger bore of the door latch opening as a means of retracting the tongue  
5 portion rearward.

1 5. A temporary door latch according to Claim 1 further comprising:

2 a tongue provided on a front end of said tongue portion, and said tongue  
3 provided with an angled portion for slidably engaging a door frame of the  
4 door.

1 6. A temporary door latch according to Claim 5 further comprising:

2 said tongue provided with a long side that is located on an opposite side of  
3 the tongue from the angled portion to prevent the door from opening when  
4 the tongue is engaged with a tongue receiving opening provided in a door  
5 frame for the door.

1 7. A temporary door latch according to Claim 1 further comprising:

2 at least one tab provided on a cylindrical front end of said handle portion,  
3 and at least one slot provided in a rear end of said tongue portion so that  
4 each tab of the handle portion is removably received in a corresponding  
5 slot of the tongue portion when the handle portion and tongue portion are  
6 removably secured together.

1 8. A temporary door latch according to Claim 6 wherein each said slot  
2 further comprises:

3 an elongate slot that extends parallel to a longitudinal axis of the tongue  
4 portion, and at least one intersecting slot continuous with its  
5 corresponding elongated slot and approximately perpendicular to its  
6 corresponding elongated slot.

1 9. A temporary door latch according to Claim 7 wherein each tab of  
2 the handle portion enters an associated elongated slot on the tongue  
3 portion when the handle portion is telescopically received in the tongue  
4 portion and so that the handle portion and tongue portion are removably  
5 locked together by rotating the tongue portion so that the each tab enters  
6 an associated intersecting slot.

1 10. A temporary door latch comprising:

2 a handle portion removably engaged with a tongue portion, a  
3 compressible arm provided on said handle portion so that said tongue  
4 portion moves toward said handle when the compressible arm is  
5 compressed,

6 a tongue provided on a front end of said tongue portion, and said tongue  
7 provided with an angled portion for slidably engaging a door frame of the  
8 door,

9 said tongue provided with a long side that is located on an opposite side of  
10 the tongue from the angled portion to prevent the door from opening when  
11 the tongue is engaged with a tongue receiving opening provided in a door  
12 frame for the door, and

13 a ring attached to said compressible arm for ease in grasping the handle  
14 portion in order to compress the compressible arm rearward within the  
15 larger bore of the door latch opening as a means of retracting the tongue  
16 portion rearward.

1 11. A temporary door latch according to Claim 10 further comprising:

2 at least two ears provided at the rear end of the compressible arm to  
3 removably secure the handle portion within a larger bore of a door latch  
4 opening.

1 12. A temporary door latch according to Claim 10 further comprising:

2 at least one tab provided on a cylindrical front end of said handle portion,  
3 and at least one slot provided in a rear end of said tongue portion so that  
4 each tab of the handle portion is removably received in a corresponding  
5 slot of the tongue portion when the handle portion and tongue portion are  
6 removably secured together.

1 13. A temporary door latch according to Claim 12 wherein each said  
2 slot further comprises:

3 an elongate slot that extends parallel to a longitudinal axis of the tongue  
4 portion, and at least one intersecting slot continuous with its  
5 corresponding elongated slot and approximately perpendicular to its  
6 corresponding elongated slot.

1 14. A temporary door latch according to Claim 13 wherein each tab of  
2 the handle portion enters an associated elongated slot on the tongue

3 portion when the handle portion is telescopically received in the tongue  
4 portion and so that the handle portion and tongue portion are removably  
5 locked together by rotating the tongue portion so that the each tab enters  
6 an associated intersecting slot.